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"I believe that Great Britain has just escaped one of the dangers to which she has ever been exposed.—Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, Speech October 19th, 1899.

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A BRIEF HISTORY  
OF THE  
**TRANSVAAL SECRET**  
**SERVICE SYSTEM**

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*FROM ITS INCEPTION TO THE PRESENT TIME,  
ITS OBJECTS, ITS AGENTS,  
THE DISPOSAL OF ITS FUNDS, AND THE RESULT  
AS SEEN TO-DAY—  
WAR AGAINST GREAT BRITAIN.*

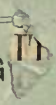
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—  
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*With Author's Compliments*  
*Edith*

# A BRIEF HISTORY

OF THE

## TRANSVAAL SECRET

## SERVICE SYSTEM

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ITS OBJECTS, ITS AGENTS,  
THE DISPOSAL OF ITS FUNDS, AND THE RESULT.*

*AS SEEN TO-DAY—*

**WAR AGAINST GREAT BRITAIN.**

## TO THE PUBLIC.

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SO far this work—for a political pamphlet published in South Africa—has had an unprecedented sale, and orders from the country are now coming in fast, hence the necessity of publishing a fourth edition. The third edition contained only a few verbal alterations in the Publisher's Address, and the same remark applies to this issue so far as that portion of the work is concerned. In the body of the book a few verbal alterations and additions will be found in this edition, but practically the book remains the same as when first published. It was anticipated that there would be a number of Press criticisms to reply to, and this would have made the work still more interesting. However, we have not been so favoured. Should the opportunity offer, we shall reply to critics in a further edition. We have been threatened with actions and arrests and a variety of other pains and penalties, but not having as yet joined the White Feather Brigade we shall pursue our course undeterred, determined to unmask a most damnable intrigue and conspiracy against the paramountcy of Great Britain in South Africa.

THE AUTHOR AND PUBLISHER.

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P.S.—The fifth (London) edition of this pamphlet will be supplemented by:—"What the British may expect when they get to Pretoria;" with plan of forts, mines, &c.

THE PUBLISHER.

## PUBLISHER'S ADDRESS.

**I**N placing accompanying matter before the public I have only one object in view—to make widely known what I believe to be the truth concerning conspiracies and plots of an unparalleled character against the paramountcy of Great Britain in South Africa. The plots have failed, but war with Great Britain is the result of the prolonged scheming, with much of which the President of the Transvaal may have had but little to do; at the same time his antipathy to, and foolish hatred of, everything English, his all along made him a willing tool in the hands of anti-British conspirators; and further, he has been continually led to believe that in the event of hostilities occurring between the Transvaal and Great Britain, Germany would come to the assistance of the Republic.

While it is an open question whether more than very few members of the Afrikaner Bond were actually and wilfully cognisant of the aims of the inner circle of the Pretoria oligarchy in regard to Great Britain, there can be no doubt that the primary purpose of the Bond—a purpose never once lost sight of by its present leaders—has been to foster and strengthen the Afrikaner element as against the British wherever possible.

An Afrikaner nation, from the Cape to the Zambesi, with Britons “permitted to reside in the country if they behave themselves”—this has been the dream and ardent aspiration of leading Dutch South Africans for a long period.

The full extent to which Germany has openly and covertly aided and abetted Pretoria plotters may never be made public, but enough is known, and sufficient may be gleaned from ensuing pages, to convince the intelligent reader that a deeply laid and skilfully devised scheme has only been frustrated by the astute diplomacy of the English Foreign Office.

How much Mr. Rhodes knew of German-Boer intrigue before the raid few people are aware, but that he did know what was going on, and had been in possession of the facts for some time, there can be little doubt.

The British Government were also fully cognisant of the conspiracy in progress, but the time has not come, and never will now perhaps, for an official exposure of the tricks of the late Prince Bismarck, the unscrupulous German Colonial Party, Dr. Leyds and others of that ilk.



The Kaiser's memorable telegram to the President of the South African Republic, after the Boer victory at Doornkop, opened the eyes of Great Britain at large, and the prompt action of the British War Department, under instructions from the Government of the day, prove conclusively, all that is herein contended for. The action of the Cabinet at the time proves that the Berlin-Pretoria intrigue was common knowledge at the Foreign Office, and the true *raison d'être* of the Jameson Raid may have rested in the fact that Mr. Rhodes was anxious to forestal and frustrate the Kaiser's designs on the Transvaal, British action being deemed by him too slow, halting and ponderous to prevent the consummation of the Bismarck-Leyds' plans.

Many who, like the Rev. Dr. Murray, know little of the inner working of State affairs, have expressed surprise at the light manner in which Mr. Rhodes was let down by the British Cabinet after the conclusion of the raid inquiry, but the real reason for the mild rebuking Mr. Rhodes had to submit to lies in the fact that he had been endeavouring to do high Imperial work, but without Imperial authority.

It is an open question whether Dr. Jameson knew before the raid, even if he knows now, the high game Mr. Rhodes was endeavouring to play, or he would never have made the mess of things he did. However, he had to suffer for his rashness; the raid was a failure, Rhodes and the Foreign Office remained silent, and war with Germany was prevented.

The master minds amongst the plotters at Pretoria and Bloemfontein were Dr. Leyds and the late Mr. Borekenhagen, and it is not too much to say that the war now being waged between Great Britain and the Republics is the direct outcome of the schemes in which those gentlemen were interested for getting rid of the paramountcy of Great Britain in South Africa.

The Boers have been the tools, the Afrikaner Bond a treasonable instrument, and bloodshed the result of Berlin-Pretoria scheming. Rich and poor have to suffer and the independence of the Republics will be lost, for Great Britain must win, or sink into the position of a third-rate Power, with little or no influence in South Africa.

The withholding of the franchise has nought to do other than indirectly with the war in progress. The full franchise would have been readily granted, and the independence of the country secured, had the Boers of the Transvaal been led by honest, disinterested leaders; but to grant the franchise to a large number of Britishers was only to strengthen British influence in South Africa, and that result would be so repugnant and so opposite to the desires of the real leaders of opinion in the



S. A. Republic, and disloyal colonists in the Cape and other parts of South Africa.

President Steyn, and those who are supporting his mad policy, have made a huge mistake and a disastrous criminal blunder, as they will find out all too late. The common observation amongst intelligent Free Staters to-day is, "Steyn has sold his country." Had a plebiscite of the people been taken on the question of "peace or war"? there would have been an overwhelming majority against going to war with Great Britain in support of the Transvaal. As it is, the Free State has all to lose and nothing to gain.

But thank Heaven, a European war is not now likely to be one of the results of war with the Republics. Bismarck is dead, Dr. Leyds' schemes will prove abortive—he has complained of breach of trust on the part of Berlin—and the Kaiser has proclaimed the German Empire neutral. Nevertheless Great Britain deems it advisable to have on the coast of Africa sufficient men-of-war to warn off strangers from interference while her quarrel is on with the Republics; and an army of from sixty to seventy thousand British and Colonial troops in South Africa will act as effectual warning to all other Powers who might otherwise think of having a "cut in" against the ever-advancing British standard.

The patriotism of Messrs. Sauer, Merriman and Schreiner is hard to understand, especially in the face of the disclosures contained in the following pages. Recollecting that the guns and ammunition allowed to be imported into the Free State and Transvaal through this Colony during the last six months are now being used by the Queen's enemies in making war upon this Colony and Natal, the reader will be able to form his own estimate of Mr. W. P. Schreiner's loyalty to Her Britannic Majesty, his unctuous platitudes at the recent closing of Parliament being kept well in view. He has proclaimed himself a true, loyal subject of the Queen, and his friends on the Bond press describe him as an honest British subject. No doubt he is an honourable man, a true British subject "made in Germany" \*; so are all Ministerialists honourable men, and loyal British subjects, distinguished as such by their words and actions and the company they keep; but in judging of their loyalty and patriotism it will be well to keep in remembrance one of the smart sayings of the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon concerning honourable men in general: "There is no one so much like an honest man as the thorough rogue."

W. TAYLOR.

28th October, 1899.

\* See page 26.

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

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At a time when the eyes of the civilized world rest upon South Africa, when the whole of Europe is anxiously awaiting the results of a long series of friendly and contradictory dispatches between the Paramount Power and its guardian child the South African Republic—a period of unparalleled depression in trade and commerce grave in the extreme, a “look in” to the subterranean passages of Secret Service mysteries concocted between two factors of anti-British origin should prove interesting reading to those who have closely followed the various incidents of political importance in South African spheres during the past ten years or so. Before going in to details I should like to give an explanation how I was able to obtain some information hereinafter set forth, and why I took steps to attempt clearing up the various matters which for many years, and even now, have baffled statesmen and people.

It was in the year 1890, when I returned from Central Africa in order to find my father, whom I had not seen for nearly eleven years, and hearing on my arrival in Durban that he was at Pretoria, I, in company with a friend, an old Volunteer officer who had seen active service in New Zealand and elsewhere, journeyed thither, meeting my father, and after a few days' parole I was fortunate in finding lucrative employment in a local Board of Executors and Trust Coy. After a few months I was asked to fill a vacancy at the then newly created Bank of the Government—De Nationale Bank van de Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek, Beperkt, where I held the office of a kind of confidential clerk and private secretary to the General Managers of the Bank.

And here it was where I was able to get at the keynote of what I afterwards knew to be a huge conspiracy and plot directed against the power of which I am proud to be a naturalized subject—the Paramount Power of South Africa.

I trust I shall be able to shortly—when the one great and glorious flag waves from the Cape to Cairo—prove with the respective documents in my possession the facts hereinafter detailed, and to show the true colours under which several prominent Afrikanders and their supporters in and out of Parliament have been sailing.

I leave these statements now to the consideration and criticism of my readers.

A. E. HEYER.

Cape Town, September 12th, 1899.



## The Service Initiated.

As Consul-General for Germany at Samoa, Doctor Wilhelm Knappe had been a huge failure. Formerly a soldier, he continually desired to rule the roost, and treated the natives as if they were dogs, flogged them for the most trivial offences and cruelly maltreated the women on the slightest provocation, and whenever his evil passions got the upper hand took other undue advantages of the defenceless creatures. The natives revolted, and spreading to the neighbouring islands a serious rising caused the massacre of a large number of Europeans, many falling a prey to the cannibals.

Germany, through the high-handed proceedings of Knappe, barely escaped war with Spain; and Prince Bismarck, then Imperial Chancellor, had Knappe recalled.

A year or two passed by, and in 1889, Dr. W. Knappe and Herman Militz were appointed Joint General Managers of De Nationale Bank, with its headquarters at Pretoria, by the express understanding of Bismarck and Dr. W. J. Leyds, then States Secretary to the South African Republic. Few people then were aware of the game about to be initiated.

—Readers will remember the heated discussion that took place between Dr. Leyds and certain members of the Volksraad in the First Raadzaal sometime in April, 1891, as to the advisability of having two German instead of two Hollander gentlemen as responsible heads of the Government Bank. But Dr. Leyds, as usual, got the best of the discussion, as he had carefully laid and prepared his plans previous to leaving Europe for South Africa.

In Bismarck he had managed to find a man of similar ideas to himself, and through him was enabled to become acquainted—for purposes best known to himself—with a number of leading German financiers at home and abroad. These two men, then, were those who laid the foundation of the Transvaal Secret Service system, the administration of which, as to cunning and device, has yet to find its equal.

True, an inferior system of Geheim Kabinet Vergaderingen had been in progress for some nine years, inaugurated shortly after the War of Independence, but all it consisted of was a number of agents in the Colony and Free State, who furnished reports on electioneering and other matters of interest and founded several pro Boer newspapers to do the necessary inflaming amongst a scattered and divided population, and to further the interests of the "Boeren Vereeniging" and another organisation I will refer to later on.



## German Interests in Africa.

### BISMARCK AND DR. LEYDS PLOTTING.

I happened to be in Hamburg in 1886, whither I had gone to take part in the Social Democratic Demonstrations, and remember reading an article in the "Nachrichten" (Bismarck's organ) dealing with the interests of Germany in Africa. After a lengthy criticism on the defeat of German troops in the Cameroons the writer referred to the Transvaal as the next strip of territory likely to fall into the hands of Germany, and the country northwards, which latter, thanks to Mr. Rhodes' ingenuity, presently joined the dominant red.

It had always been Prince Bismarck's desire to oust the Imperial claims to paramountcy in South Africa, backed up by the clever devices and intricate schemes of Dr. Leyds.

A striking proof of Germany's attempt to swamp the Transvaal with troops, with the ultimate view of destroying British paramountcy in South Africa, was the annexation of Damaraland and Great Namaqualand.

A party of German engineers and surveyors landed at Swakop mouth, and a line of railway *via* Windhoek and Northern Kalahari to Johannesburg was to be immediately constructed. Again Great Britain frustrated the scheme by quietly annexing Bechuanaland.

The useless territory of Walfish Bay Great Britain preferred to hold on to yet awhile—in spite of the urgent appeals of Bismarck and Caprivi—as the extraordinary amount of ammunition landed near Angra Pequena had given rise to grave suspicion at the British Foreign Office.

I have before me a copy of a document dated Pretoria, August 24th, 1892 (the original of which is still in a certain government office in Pretoria), wherein a Pretoria-Berlin scheme is detailed, namely: "How a few regiments of Prussian infantry could be landed at Delagoa Bay and force their way into Transvaal Territory," and, "once in," defy British suzerainty and for all time "hang the annoying question of her paramountcy on the nail." The name of Herr Von Herff, then German Consul at Pretoria, appears on the document.

Anyone reading this cleverly planned "Descent on Delagoa" would be readily convinced as to how very easily a German raid on Delagoa territory could be successfully accomplished; at all events as long as the Portuguese authorities hold possession of it, and Catenbe is in the hands of Germany.

"Great Britain is after all a very powerful force, which though it can be annihilated on a patient piece of paper, cannot be so easily got rid of in hard reality." In this strain wrote the

Manager of the Berliner Disconto-Gesellschaft to Dr. Knappe in 1892; and shortly afterwards the idea of sending an armed force to aid the Transvaal to once and for all time end the "insulting communications and threats from Downing Street" was wisely abandoned, and attention was vigorously devoted to affairs in the Cape Colony.

When slowly on the scent, anxiously groping my way to find out all I could, as soon as I knew the game Germany was playing in South Africa with the aid of the Republics, I was determined not to be discovered fishing in troubled waters and have all my efforts destroyed. I managed to get permission to sleep on the bank's premises, acting at the same time as a sort of caretaker; and having the keys to the Manager's rooms and Secretary's quarters devoted many an hour by night in going through the copying books and "Foreign Letter Presses," and naturally began to take a lively interest in those peculiar negotiations then going forward, being well rewarded for my trouble and risks.

I thought it very strange why all of a sudden, and quite apart from the weekly ordinary meetings of directors (for which *printed* circulars were issued), "private" meetings of directors and certain other gentlemen were held monthly in the Board Room at an unusual hour of the night. I was determined to find out who were present and what transpired. In order to be successful in my efforts to solve these mysterious proceedings, which I gathered were connected with Secret Service matters, I made up my mind to purposely make a fool of myself, pretending all along not to understand high Dutch well enough, and seeming to care but little of what transpired around me, daily annoying my superiors when delivering important messages or the like. In this I was highly successful, as very soon the Secretary and Manager looked upon me as an "innocent and harmless duffer," for thus they expressed themselves to a friend, a gentleman, whose name for the present I cannot mention as he still holds a responsible position with the Government across the Vaal, and who has from time to time furnished me with such information as might be of use to me in dealing with matters of more or less importance. He it was who attended several of these mysterious meetings of State plotters, as well as finding admission to Secret Sessions of the Raads any time he chose to do so, naturally gaining considerable experience and knowledge on very important and vital questions.

He has never made himself acquainted with any State secrets in order to make use of them to further his own interests, as many in similar positions do to-day; and although a burgher, is one of those who wish that the administration of the govern-



ment was in other and cleaner hands. Yielding, therefore, to his requests and those of others, I have decided to publish that which for years I have thought it wiser to conceal. Readers will be able to grasp why and how it has been possible for such a petty State to refuse all along the just demands of Great Britain in her efforts to obtain equal rights, justice and freedom for her subjects in the South African Republic, and also be able to form their own conclusions as to why Great Britain prefers to have one or two ironclads off Lorenzo Marques at the present time.

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### Secret Seances at De Nationale Bank and those who attended them.

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In the first place I will give you the names of *some* of the more prominent men who attended the secret meetings at the Nationale Bank. There were the two Managers, Dr. Karl Knappe and Herman Militz; Dr. J. W. Leyds, States Secretary; Victor Schoenmehl, Secretary; W. Verwey, then responsible head of the Netherlands Railway; T. W. Beckett, a leading Pretoria merchant who supplies the Government stores with provisions all over the country; J. Boshoff, Treasurer-General, and Auditor-General Marais; Adolf Goertz, Ed. Lippert from Johannesburg, and others.

These constituted the Committee, six to form a quorum. It would be a difficult task for me to detail what I personally overheard at these meetings, during the interesting debates, often lasting till the small hours of the morning, and to quote from memory some of the more important communications that passed between the "Committee" and the Executive Members of the Afrikaner Party in Cape Town.

The dream of an Afrikaner South Africa, minus British paramountcy, could not only be seen in the correspondence between the two parties but was a hope constantly expressed by the members of that august committee, several members of which, it must be remembered, were directors of the said bank. President Kruger, who was once present with his son-in-law, Jan Eloff, said that "Englaud must not be the supreme Power in South Africa. I feel sure, that, providing we have Germany with us, and with the O.F.S. and the Colony, we shall win the day."

This statement was received with loud cheering, and the posse of Zarps stationed at the Landdrost Court next door rushed to the place, wondering what had happened. A rumour was current the next morning of an attempt to break into the bank.



The editor of the late *Transvaal Observer* will remember the incident.

At the time of which I am writing feeling was already very bitter between Progressive members of the Cape public and Bond sections in the Colony. Two by-elections for vacant seats in the House of Assembly were to take place (April, 1892); H. J. Dempers (Bond) contested the Caledon seat in place of the late Sir Thomas Upington, resigned, and for Victoria East the notorious W. Hay was to have the support of the Bond during the election in place of Mr. S. Johnson, Progressive, then lately deceased. The Bond was in a quandary - where to obtain sufficient funds with which to defray election expenses.

However, the difficulty was soon got over, and a certain notorious member of the present Cape Ministry, not particularly noted for his gentleness of demeanour or affectionate regard for lofty principles, may remember receiving about this time, April, 1892, the sum of £800, in eight £100 notes of De Nationale Bank, with the names at foot of W. Knappe, Manager, and S. Meintjes, Accountant, the notes being taken from book A.

A prominent Cape politician, sometimes termed the Dictator and Ministry-maker, may remember that during the general elections of 1894 sums to the tune of from £1,200 to £2,000 were sent to his care for electioneering and like purposes in the Cape Colony by the Berliner Handelsgesellschaft, which institution, for the benefit of English readers, may be termed the Berlin Chamber of Commerce.

Another and particularly unctuous and patriotic member of the present Cape Ministry, distinguished by a sweet amiability of temper and admiration for the Rt. Hon. C. J. Rhodes, may recollect receiving a cheque from a Transvaal Secret Service Agent during his struggle to power in 1898.

Has the chameleon of the party, the present Treasurer-General, forgotten the mission one Erasmus, from Pretoria, was entrusted with in May, 1892, and the ultimate outcome of that mission? Did the hon. the Treasurer-General not go home one afternoon better off in funds than when he left in the morning?

Has the ill-advised organ in Burg Street, representing the Afrikaner cause, forgotten that little episode in June of the same year when a rather large envelope, bearing the Transvaal postmark and the words *IN DIENST*, addressed to Den Wel Edelen Heer J. S. Malan, was neatly secreted in the editorial sanctum, and what it contained in *re* finance and information?

Large sums of money have from time to time been sent from

the above-mentioned sources to the leaders of the Afrikaner Bond for various purposes, during the past 5 years in particular, yet the party most emphatically deny both in and out of Parliament ever having received financial support! Why? Because there is a motive at the back of it all, yet to be disclosed. Readers will grasp it for themselves before they have finished with this pamphlet.

It will be remembered how, during the General Elections of last year, a certain German, whose particular movements I had the pleasure of watching, especially during the non-confidence debates in the House, travelled in the interests of the Bond party all over the Colony spending "his" money freely, and *who now holds a snug billet in the Government Service across the Vaal.*

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## Progress of the Plot.

### IN TOUCH WITH BERLIN.

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The mysterious meetings at the Nationale Bank Chambers were initiated at the express desire of the Handelsgesellschaft at Berlin, and, as I afterwards learned, the Emperor had had a hand in it. Both Germany and the Transvaal authorities had one common object in view: to undermine the Paramountcy of Great Britain in South Africa.

To attain this object a powerful Secret Service had to be put into successful operation, and once *that* was accomplished the mischievous propaganda of setting the two white races against each other could be more effectually carried out. While the Secret Service Agents were at work in the Portuguese provinces and at Lisbon, other Agents were to promote the interests of the *Afrikaner Nation* in the Cape Colony. At Lisbon every effort was made to obtain a port in Delagoa Bay. Think of the festivities over the opening of the Pretoria-Lourenço Marques Railway in 1895. The whole of the decorations and gorgeous preparations and celebrations were paid for out of the funds of the Transvaal Secret Service, although openly the Volksraad voted £25,000 for the purpose. The purpose those festive proceedings were intended to serve will be patent to the thoughtful reader.

Aided by Germany, Dr. Leyds approached Lisbon over and over again with a view to get Delagoa Bay ceded to the Transvaal, but the Portuguese authorities kept the London Convention wholesomely in view. It may here be useful to quote from a speech made in the British House of Commons in March, 1895, by Mr. Buxton, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies,



in reply to a question by Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Buxton said :

“Regarding the question of the suzerainty, it is a somewhat doubtful question as to what extent the suzerainty, created under the Convention of 1881, was continued by the Convention of 1884. The matter is not one of much importance, inasmuch as the essence of the suzerainty was contained in Clause 4 of the Convention of 1884, which deals with the external relations of the South African Republic. This clause remains in full and effective force; and, as I have stated on two occasions lately in the house, under Article IV. of the London Convention of 1884, the South African Republic, as regards its foreign relations, is and remains within the sphere of British influence, *and can conclude no treaty or engagement with any State or nation (with the exception of the Orange Free State) until the same has been submitted to Her Majesty the Queen for her approval.*”

Shortly after the death from apoplexy of Baron Baelerts von Blokland at the Hague, a rumour was current to the effect that deceased had overworked mind and brain, constantly hard at work on this matter, giving it untiring attention during the last two years of his experienced career as Ambassador Extraordinary in Europe of the Transvaal.

If the correspondence between the Hague and Lisbon, the Hague and Pretoria and *vice versa* could to-day be published—what a story it would reveal! In spite of enormous deficits in the Royal budget, Portugal, no doubt fully aware of the trap set for it to be caught in, did not quite see its way clear to yield to Dr. Leyds' courteous representations.

The Delagoa Bay trick had failed, and according to the opinion of Mr. C. van Boeschoten (late Under States Secretary of the State and now a willing hand at the Brussels Legation), expressed during a conversation with a shining light of the Pretoria Club, “there was no hope for the Transvaal to obtain a port in Portuguese territory.”

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## Suzerainty the Thorn.

### A GERMAN SCHEME.

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But the suzerainty question was the thorn in the side of Dr. Leyds and his satellites. They were well aware that such suzerainty existed and would continue to exist as long as the stripe of green was mixed with the red, white and blue. Yet the Transvaal gloried in the denial of its existence.



What was now the next move to succeed in ousting the Imperial paramountcy from the land, so as to make good use of the Secret Service funds?

Shortly before the regrettable Jameson inroad, which, it must be confessed, has only aided in further embittering the racial animosity between the two white races in South Africa, the German Government made the following offer to the Boer Government through Von Herff, the German representative at Pretoria: Germany agreed to send some 12,000 trained men *via* Delagoa Bay into the Transvaal, gradually, as immigrants, miners and the like. A large number of experienced military officers were to go to Pretoria, to train the Staats Artillerie, to build forts, &c., on the German and French principles, and generally to supervise military affairs. This force once within Transvaal territory would, in their opinion, be able to hold its own against any force Great Britain might send. Should suspicion be aroused and the Portuguese forbid the entrance to their territory, force should be used and entrance effected at any price. A number of German officers left for the Transvaal in the beginning of '96, after the raid, and on arrival at once posted with the Artillery; four large forts were built around Pretoria and one at Johannesburg with all possible haste, and enormous quantities of arms and ammunition ordered and supplied from Germany.

The Kaiser sent his memorable wire to President Kruger congratulating him "on his victory at Doornkop." Teuton and Boer were for a time linked closely together and so the days sped on. Certain correspondence passed between the Bond leaders here and Pretoria, but whether the former were aware of the game Germany was playing will, I am afraid, never be known. I have, however, good reason to believe that they did know all about it.

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### The Plot Thickens, but—

Step by step the net was encircling itself around the unfortunate Republic—but at the eleventh hour a sudden "change of attitude" on the part of Her Majesty's ships stationed at the Cape of Good Hope had the effect of again bringing the schemers to their senses. What a storm of loyal indignation at the publication of the Kaiser's telegram to Mr. Kruger arose throughout the British Isles; and when the Channel fleet prepared for action, how soon the Kaiser changed his mind from his notorious scheme to swamp the Transvaal with German troops. But matters could not remain quiet long. Here is a paragraph from a trenchant leader that appeared in the *Johannesburg Times* about this time:—

“ . . . There is a leakage through official sources ; schemes are being hatched that bode no good to this state ; evil designs are rampant, and the vampires we referred to are active and strong. . . . Sinister influences are still at work, and every effort is being made to complete the strangulation of the State. Where is it all to end ? Scheme follows scheme as rapidly as day follows night, and the people of the State are being contemptuously ignored. . . . We see clearly, however, that unless the Raad shows a strong determination to stop the schemes of the men who are building on the destruction of the country. the outlook, so far as future prospects of this Republic are concerned, is very gloomy indeed.”

This article, it will be remembered, was taken notice of by all the Progressive journals in South Africa and commented upon ; it was evident that the *Johannesburg Times* knew a great deal more what was then going on. And the British Government knew also. Again the treacherous plans of Wilhelm, Leyds and the disloyal party in the Colony were frustrated.

A significant note appeared in the *London Times*, where it said : “ We learn that the Emperor William through his failure in Reform schemes has got into a state of mind such as to justify some alarm.” Well, if the above scheme is included and his own remarks about the “ mailed fist to the Far East,” where his “ hallowed and divine person ” was to be proclaimed to the heathen Chinese, etc., perhaps the *Times* informant was not far wrong.

Certain members of the Afrikaner Bond have been working hand in hand with the Executive across the Vaal to wreck British supremacy in South Africa. Is it, therefore, to be wondered at, that Mr. Schreiner's attitude during the strained relations between Her Majesty's Government and the South African Republic, is one of strict neutrality ? Was it strict neutrality on his part to allow large quantities of ammunition to pass through the Colony to a country ill disposed towards and on the verge of war with Great Britain ? A brother-in-law as States-Secretary to the Republic, he himself Premier of one of the largest Colonies of Her Majesty's Empire, surrounded daily by men who care for naught else but to conceive and frame plans, aiding an unfriendly State in her attempts to undermine the Paramountcy of the Imperial factor ! What more proof do we require as to the undeniable “ loyalty ” of the members of the Afrikaner Bond, constituting the majority of the Dutch dwellers in the Cape Colony ?

But to proceed.

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## The Labour Party in Johannesburg and Secret Service Funds.

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Here is another instance of one of those mysterious “ connections ” between Transvaal Secret Service funds and Bond electioneering tactics :



A certain Labour agitator and anti-Capitalist who had addressed a number of public meetings at the Rand and unknowingly played into the hands of Dr. Leyds and his party, was surprised one day to receive a sealed letter from one of the Secret Service Agents at Pretoria asking him to come and see him.

The interview was a long and interesting one, inasmuch as the Government wanted him to fight the "Capitalist Clique" out of the Rand. A sum of £600 was placed at his disposal and naturally accepted. Mass meetings were held along the reefs and much mischief done. Messrs. Lionel Phillips and the Ecksteins, through their agents, approached the agitator to clear out of Johannesburg, and I was informed offered him money in consideration thereof. Whether the money was accepted or not I have never been able to ascertain; suffice it to say that during a recent election in the Cape Peninsula under the new Redistribution Law this self-same agitator was working up the candidature of a Bondsman against a Progressive, but did not succeed in getting his man in, much to his and the party's dismay. The funds, I may mention, were again supplied from Pretoria. How the capitalists fared after the trial of the reformers is well known.

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## Enormous Expenditure.

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According to Volksraad besluit £10,000 annually are granted for Secret Service; in 1893, £15,000, in round figures, were spent in Secret Service transactions. and in 1895 the sum doubled, while lately the *average* expenditure annually amounts to something like £80,000, that is *in toto*, including espionage, financial considerations to the Free State, the Press, &c.

Whilst on the subject of expenditure I hereby append a lately revised list of some prominent agents who receive annual support from the Pretoria Chest:—

Henry Labouchere, M.P. for Northampton, England.

Reginald F. Statham, late *Standard and Diggers' News*, now on *Daily Chronicle* staff.

Victor Schoenmehl, Manager Nationale Bank, Paris.

P. J. Malan, C. A. Celliers, Pretoria.

T. W. Beckett, N. J. Smit (late Commissioner of Railways), Pretoria.

Van der Merwe of Van der Merwe, near Pretoria.

Baron De Matalha, formerly Consul-General for Mozambique.

Leo. Weinthal. *Pretoria News Agency*, Pretoria.

C. Pott, Managing Director of *De Oost-Afrikaansche Compagnie*, Delagoa Bay.

Dr. Hoffman, M.L.A., *De Paarl*, Cape Colony.

T. Eerkes, the notorious correspondent of *De Volksstem*, Cape Town, and Secretary to the Netherlands Consul De Waal.

T. O'Brien, Irish National Alliance, Vancouver, Canada.

While amongst the subsidised Press are the following:—  
*Standard and Diggers' News*, Johannesburg and London.



*Pretoria News*, and *Volksstem*, Pretoria.

*Rand Post*, Johannesburg.

*Ons Land* (formerly *Zuid Afrikaan*), Cape Town.

*Express*, late *Borckenhagen*, Bloemfontein, O.F.S.

*Die Hamburger Nachrichten*, Hamburg, Germany.

*Vossische Zeitung*, Germany.

*Berliner Neueste Nachrichten*, Berlin.

*Le Matin*, Paris,

and a large number of others.

Thus it will be seen how widespread the system of Secret Service movements is to-day. There is a separate and secret code (with which I am acquainted) in use between the heads of this particular department, who comprise the following persons :—

Dr. W. J. Leyds, now Minister Plenipotentiary at the Hague, the present States Secretary Reitz in his stead ; N. J. H. Fortuin, Confidential Clerk, States Secretary's Department : D. E. Schutte, Chief of Police ; and Dr. Engelburg, head of the Pretoria *Volksstem*, the leading Government organ.

Apart from the smart and effectual manner in which this important branch of the service is being managed, the utmost and strictest secrecy prevails, and all financial transactions are managed so scrupulously careful that supposing a person in the employ of the State or otherwise engaged, no matter *where it may be*, doing secret service for the State, he always receives his sovereigns through a second or intermediary channel, so that he never has and never can show a clear case, should he perchance turn against the Government.

## The Appointment of Agents.

Therefore, a person anxious to get at some of the most important State secrets will have to be either a State official, living at first in Pretoria, or have a trustworthy friend in the employ of the said State who can furnish him with such particulars as his position would enable him to easily ascertain. Persons desirous to join the Secret Service of the Transvaal in order to do mischief outside its dominions, will have to show reasons, exemplary references, and must bring with them to Pretoria such personal introductions leaving no doubt as to their guarantee of good faith. The newly employed servant then enters upon nine months' course of "instruction and probation," during which time he is carefully watched and shadowed by other Agents in the same employ, quite unknown to himself, and to whom he has to report ; from these he also draws his salary, amounting in the aggregate from £5 to £8 and £10 per week ; it all depends on the place he fills, what work he is doing, and where he "works." If it is as a member of the Espionage Corps and connected with military matters he receives a substantial bonus at the expiration of his term.

The nine months completed, provided very favourable reports are sent to Headquarters regarding his trustworthiness and abilities, the

Agent is sworn in to secrecy and finally acquainted with the more important branches of the service for another term of two years, at a monthly salary of from £35 to £50 and all travelling expenses; this salary is increased in proportion, if he has to travel by sea on longer journeys to the Continent or otherwise, involving naturally greater risks. At any time, however, he may be stopped or recalled from whatever mission he is engaged in fulfilling and enter into an ordinary Government appointment. All the "lids" of the "Geheime Kabinet" at Pretoria are men of excellent education and talents and not easily fooled, and mostly Hollanders. "No Afrikanders need apply" for that particular vocation.

In 1895 a system of Carrier Pigeons was to have been inaugurated in conjunction with the Secret Service of the Republican Government, which advice also hailed from Germany.

The "Antwerp or Belgian voyageur" is a pigeon unusually well suited for the purpose, and when well trained can travel at the rate of about 500 miles in 12 hours, in other words a message dispatched from Camp Street, Cape Town, to Kerk Straat (West) Pretoria, could be satisfactorily answered in less than 60 hours. But, my informant tells me, the Bond Quorum would not entertain the proposal and the scheme was abandoned.

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## A Financial Fiasco.

### WHAT BECAME OF THE MONEY?

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Let me again return to the "Secret Seances" at De Nationale Bank Chambers.

The Kuranda and Marais fiasco in 1894, when the bank was reported to have suffered a dead loss of some £80,000, said to be due to the gross carelessness of the aforementioned Joint General Managers of the said Bank having advanced Government moneys (overdrafts) on securities not existing, these two plotters received notice to quit from Dr Leyds, but subsequently turned up in Europe occupying yet more responsible positions at the express desire of the Kaiser! Few people that remember the scandal knew at the time what would be the fate of these two conspirators and the Secretary of the Bank, who was at the bottom of the whole affair. He occupied the house situated at the corner of Van der Wall and Pretorius Streets, belonging to the State, the same house which *after* the scandal was turned into a braggadocio of State conspiracies of an Anti-British nature,—this self-same Secretary was duly appointed Manager of the Paris Branch and Head of the Secret Service at the great French capital. And what became of the Directors? They are (with one or two exceptions, who left Pretoria for fresh pastures) in their snug positions to this day.

As said before, the secret meetings were continued in what was then known as the "Haunted House" above described, as the newly appointed Manager of the Bank, Mr. Thos. Hugo, formerly of the

Transvaal Board of Executors, at Pretoria, was evidently left out in the cold and not made acquainted with the Anti-Anglo-German and Boer conspiracy. His sympathies were not in this direction.

In the face of repeated denials to the contrary by even such progressive papers as the *Landon Times*, *Cape Times*, *Cape Argus*, etc., is it not clear that ever since the eventful days of 1881 the Boer Government has had the financial support and backing of Germany, more especially during the reign of the present Emperor? Hand in hand they have worked to crush the power of Great Britain in this country, with powerful Agents throughout the Colony and the Orange Free State, continually striving to stir up race hatred between the dominant white races in South Africa, yearning for an Afrikaner Nation under a Republican flag, independent of any obligations to the Imperial Sovereign, masquerading all along under the cloke of "lip-loyalty to the crown," to which both owe their very existence! Is it not scandalous? But, have they succeeded in their efforts? No, they have failed, miserably failed. They have attempted a suicidal policy and sealed their own doom, as time will show.

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## Conspiracy and the Secret Service System further illustrated.

### THE MATABELE REBELLION.

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In order to still further illustrate the objects and administration of Transvaal Secret Service tactics, let me state that Germany, or still better, its Agent, Ed. Lippert, of Johannesburg, had been unsuccessful in obtaining Mashonaland and Matabeleland for the German Crown, Mr. Rhodes had seen to that, and the Transvaal, now finding its way North cut off, and hemmed in on all sides by British territory, hit upon a novel idea. While negotiations were proceeding briskly with the Lisbon Authorities respecting Delagoa Bay, Secret Service emissaries crossed into what is now known as Rhodesia, at Tuli Drift, to stir up the natives against British rule. This was *prior* to the Jameson inroad.

I take the following paragraph from the *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent, who wrote as follows:—"In December 1895, 175 guns and thirty cases of ammunition, bearing the Transvaal Government mark and 'made in Germany,' were sent from the Magazine at Middelburg and conveyed to the Matabele and Mashonas. Many of these guns have fallen into the hands of our people during the disastrous campaigns following the shabby and mischievous Boer instigations—as many as thirteen were secured after a single engagement. Of course, the serious vital point in this matter is that this delivery of hostile arms by Boer emissaries took place when there was no particular cause of quarrel between the two Governments. The native rebellion to the North of the Transvaal also had been quelled. The Boers were at work stirring it up again.



Sir Richard Martin, in his report, ascribes the revival of the insurrection to the fact that Jameson's invasion had withdrawn troops from Rhodesia. In part that may have contributed to the outbreak; but it would seem that two or three months before, the intriguers on this side had been laying the train that led to the explosion. There is no doubt that the official who actually conducted these nefarious operations was the late Colonel Henning Pretorius, of the Staats Artillerie, who printed an account of his trip into Mashonaland under the guise of a hunting expedition, but it is now generally known that he had other game in view than springboks or lions. After the Jameson adventure 200 guns and sixteen cases of ammunition were sent from Pretoria to the Matabele. We may grasp the heinousness of this offence by the Boer sentiment on the subject.

'Thou shalt not help the Kaffir against the white man,' is the eleventh commandment. Throughout all South Africa it is the unpardonable sin to aid black against white. If we were to go to war with the Transvaal and the Free State combined they would still expect that we would prevent the armed hosts of the Basutos from overrunning the Orange Free State territory. What we in England consider a merit that we have protected the Kaffir races from extermination by the Dutchman, he looks upon as ineffaceable shame; but to stir up native people against the European would be anathema beyond words in all South Africa. It would recall Chatham's burning words against employing the Indians in the American war. Assuredly Mr. Kruger's Government will never deny or minimise the enormity of the offence; that they will, if called to account, hold an inquiry and disprove the allegations I have no manner of doubt. At the time of the crossing of Tuli Drift a certain gentleman was magistrate at Tuli who is now enjoying a comfortable sinecure at Johannesburg. He could possibly inform the world how it all came about—if he dared to do so."

Well, as we all know no inquiry was ever held, while time and the natives' own testimonies have only proved too clearly that the Boers, through Secret Service Agents, had supplied the Mashonas and Matabeles with arms and ammunition—to fight the British pioneer in those remote regions, another proof of the object Germany and the Republic conjointly had in view.

## The Langberg Revolt—The Transvaal's Share Therein.

### WILL JUSTICE YET BE DONE?

There is yet another and far more serious case in view resulting in the conviction of an unfortunate Chief, a case up to this day a mystery to those who have followed events of the miserable Langberg Campaign and all its horrors. This time the Secret Service Agents had done their work more effectually, over which fact they afterwards gloated.

It will be remembered the enormous quantities of arms and ammunition that arrived from Germany for the Transvaal Government during the years 1895, 1896 and 1897, and the large number of armed Germans who were entering the country, armed with rifles, with the German Army stamp on them. These rifles were carefully packed in Hamburg newspapers, carefully oiled and no address, but a number and the word "Hamburg" written in ink. A packet was made to look as unlike rifles as possible with the aid of a large quantity of fine shavings. Where did all these go to? We shall see.

The long protracted Campaign, which cost the Colonial Government so large an amount of money, was brought to a close with the ultimate arrest of Galishiwe, the Bathlapin Chief, and his followers. Do you remember the statement made by the unfortunate Chief and afterwards corroborated by others? To a representative of the Colonial Government he made the following statement:—

"My name is Galishiwe Gasebone. While I was at Phokwane the first policemen who were on duty looking after the line informed me that they had received orders from the Magistrate at Taungs. They said, "You must take care that your cattle don't cross the border." I said, "The ground is too narrow for the cattle to graze upon." The police said, "If you don't take care of your cattle, if they come to the border they will be shot." I told my people to look after my cattle. The police shot my cattle. I complained to the Magistrate, who said, "It is right, you do not look after your cattle." I let the thing remain so. I did not complain, as the law prevented me from so doing. Piet Bosman and I were friends. I told him about the cattle. He said, "Before you submit you had rather fight." I said, "No; I can't fight against Englishmen, I am the Englishman's child." He said, "You must fight. They are killing all your cattle." I said, "No, even although they kill my cattle they will give me food. Besides, I am too weak to fight. I have no powder or bullets." He said, "Give me the money and I will help you with bullets and powder." I gave him £20 to purchase ammunition. He gave me later on six bags of powder, five boxes of caps, and five packets of Martini-Henry cartridges. Later on he gave me four packets of Westley-Richards carbines. I said, "With this ammunition I will shoot game; I can't fight." He said, "I will help you." I said to him, "If you will help me give me guns." He said, "No, I will not do so. The Englishmen will see the guns. I will get people together, and come myself to your assistance when you fight the Englishmen." When the rinderpest broke out amongst my cattle, the Magistrate of Taungs sent for me. The Magistrate said, "We are shooting the cattle at Taungs. We will now come and shoot your cattle also." I said, "No, sir, do not do so; I will bury them." He replied, "Very well, if you bury all your cattle that die I will not have them shot." The police afterwards came to me and said, "We see dead cattle lying about in your country." I replied, "They are not mine. They come from Taungs and Monte." They said I was to bury them as the carcasses were in my country. I got some people,



who buried the cattfe at Schaapfontein, near the police-station. The police drove them away. They sent a message to Taungs saying that I was causing trouble with the police. I then saw that war was coming. I spoke to the corporal of the police and said, "I never sent anyone to quarrel with you. I merely sent my people to bury the dead cattle." The sergeant came armed to me. I said, "You can go home. I do not want war." They went back to their camp. The following evening Bosman sent for me. I went to him later. While at Bosman's I received a message to the effect that the Commissioner of Police wanted to see me at Phokwane siding. The message was, "Tell Galishiwe if he does not come to-night, to-morrow morning we shall shoot him." I slept at Bosman's that night. When I got the message I said to Bosman, "You said you would help me." The next morning I heard shots in the direction of Phokwane. I said to Bosman, "You hear they are firing at my people, You have already promised to help me. Do so now." Bosman replied, "I am ready with my people." He at once gave me six packets of cartridges, three bags of powder, and four boxes of caps. He said, "Go home now. I will go and get my people together." I reached home at three o'clock in the morning. On my arrival there I saw that the Englishmen had already taken possession of my station. I saw my brother Piet lying dead. That was on a Sunday. My people with myself fled in the direction of Bosman's. When I arrived there I saw a number of Transvaal burghers, I think about 200, standing on the boundary line of the Transvaal. All were armed. I said to Bosman, "You see the war has commenced." Bosman answered, "If one bullet crosses the boundary we are ready to retaliate." I was at Bosman's house when one of my people came with a message to me, saying the Englishmen wanted to know if I would make peace. Bosman at once said, "You may make peace." I said, "You have got me into trouble, and now you refuse to help me." I told my people to return to their homes. I said to Bosman, "I myself am afraid to return to my station." Bosman took two guns from me, two long Martini-Heury rifles, and two new saddles. He was going to take my horses, but they were over the boundary line, so he left them. I left Bosman's place and came direct to Langberg. Afterwards I paid Bosman the £20 for ammunition. I again gave him £5. According to my reckoning, Bosman gave me ammunition to the value of £10."

What was the ultimate result of it all? Piet Bosman, who was the paid Agent in the Secret Service of the Transvaal, had succeeded in stirring up to rebellion the natives in Bechuanaland. It was all clearly proved, but Galishiwe was sentenced to a long term of penal servitude; and the Transvaal Agents? Left alone, to do further mischief. True, an inquiry was held, and it was decided that Mr. Bosman was as spotless as a dove, but it is a singular fact that a Boer inquiry has never yet resulted in the conviction of a Burgher of the State for an alleged offence against a foreign citizen or State.

Germany was all alone fully cognizant of what was going on



Were not a large number of their rifles confiscated by the Colonial Government? Readers will remember the instance when Sir Gordon Sprigg in the Cape Parliament openly charged the Transvaal Agent and Field-Cornet Bosman with having assisted Galishiwe to rebellion in Her Majesty's territory, and how the matter was treated by the Republican Government.

The "Berliner Neueste Nachrichten" (evidently in the know) thereupon commented on "the Cape Premier's 'folly' believing the words and statements made by the Bathlapin Chiefs, words of mere Kaffirs." All this time the Imperial Government remained silent, not a word of protest ever reached us from across the water, but quietly and calmly, with their eyes open, further developments were awaited.

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### After the Jameson Raid.

The lamentable Raid had left its traces on the land and racial hatred increased. The Transvaal Government, not satisfied with the finding of the Parliamentary Inquiry and Mr. Rhodes' connection therewith, instructed its Secret Service Agents to do their level best in hindering and hampering all things British, to boycott the British trade whenever opportunities offered themselves. The Deutsche Oost Afrika Line of Mail Steamers was heavily subsidised to further the ends and means of a petty jealous State. The closing of the Drifts, still fresh in the minds of many, and Mr. Schreiner's attitude therewith, seemed to most of us inexplicable.

Mr. Schreiner was playing a shrewd game! Perhaps as Premier, an office he was striving hard to fill, he would have assumed an attitude of neutrality for a deeper and sinister motive. A private letter addressed by Mr. Schreiner to a Pretoria State official would, if published, throw a lurid light on that situation.

Secret Service Agents were hard at work all over South Africa. Their object in Delagoa Bay I have already detailed. In Durban Leo. Weinthal started a pro Boer journal, which was to be "known" as the *Durban Star*—alas, when the game leaked out and was exposed the *Star* soon vanished. The Natal people were too smart and too loyal for Mr. Weinthal, Secret Service temptations failed to have any effect on the Natalians, and Leo. Weinthal returned to Pretoria.

Throughout the Cape Colony seeds of sedition were sown through Bond Agents, intended to bear fruit at the next General Election. We know the results: The Bond triumphed.

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### The Fire at Groote Schuur and the Attempt on Mr. Rhodes' Life.

But what about the fire at Groote Schuur and the subsequent attempt to wreck the train, in which the Lord of Groote Schuur

travelled on his return from the North, January 7th, 1897? I have it on excellent authority that this too was the work of Secret Service Agents, as two men, at the time, well known at Pretoria, were closely shadowed back into the Transvaal from Kimberley shortly after the unsuccessful attempt on Mr. Rhodes' life.

## Dr. Leyds and the Kaiser.

I think I have so far clearly shown in these pages that that Transvaal, aided by Germany and the Afrikaner Bond, has been seeking all along to undermine British supremacy in South Africa, but there is no doubt that the British Government was continually informed of all secret plans and manœuvring on the part of the officials who controlled the administration of the State. People still wonder how it is that the German Government has all of a sudden changed its *modus operandi* in respect to the Transvaal. Who said so? When Dr. Leyds started for Berlin from the Hague on an official mission sometime in October, 1898, he was, as usually, *cordially* received by the Kaiser, the statements in the world's press to the contrary notwithstanding. He had gone to Germany to again seek intervention on behalf of the Transvaal *in re* the Delagoa Bay Crisis—but failed. The Emperor, who always found an opponent in Herr von Bulow, the Foreign and Colonial Secretary, had been strongly advised not to yield to Dr. Leyds' wishes; besides, he had learned such a severe lesson already when he interfered in the internal affairs of the Republic in 1896, that he declined to accede to the representations of the Doctor. The official organ was duly informed of the results of this interview, and since that time a gulf lies between the two nations, if one might apply this term to the Transvaal Boer. Dr. Leyds in a dispatch to Pretoria (which does not appear in any Green Book) referred to the action of the Berlin authorities as a "breach of faith," and threatened to have his revenge. It must not, however, be supposed that the former friends of the Transvaal have lost all sympathy with the Republic; on the contrary, those large financial houses still stick to their guns and largely contribute towards the Secret Service Funds of the Republic.

The alleged "split" between Germany and the Transvaal is therefore a make-believe with which Britishers are asked to be satisfied.

Then a peculiar and sarcastic article appeared in *Land en Volk*, Pretoria:—

"But what is Dr. Leyds doing in Europe that he cannot manage to secure a loan of six millions for the Transvaal? What is Dr. Leyds doing in Europe that he cannot prevent Delagoa Bay passing under English control? Why does he not pay his friend the German Emperor *another* visit, or invite him to dinner in order to dissuade him from entering into an Alliance with Britain, and persuade him to give President Kruger's 'blessed' policy his moral support as of yore?

There must be something rotten about the state of Denmark, and it is high time that the great Leyds did something to make matters take a different course. What boots it that he struts about Holland and Paris with a gilded suit of clothes and £17,500 in his pocket, if we are continually to be hedged in until we awake one fine morning and find our natural harbour in the hands of the English?" With regard to his failing to negotiate a loan the same paper continues:—

"In an interview Dr. Leyds stated that the Kruger Government did what it could for the mining industry, &c. Unfortunately for his reputation, the better-class journalistic circles in Europe are well informed as to the manner in which President Kruger watches over the interests of the gold industry.

"They know too well that the facts in the report of the Industrial Commission are incontrovertible even by such a clever diplomatist as Dr. Leyds. They know that the corner stone of the Kruger-Leyds Government, viz., the Dynamite Concession, hangs like a millstone round the neck of the Gold Industry, which is still further suppressed by high railway tariffs, and by a most miserable administration of the Liquor, Pass, Gold-theft Laws, and the lately created fresh tax of 2½ per cent. on monthly outputs."

People wondered why Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, the acknowledged leader of the Bond, was recently sent up to Pretoria to consult with the President as to the Imperial claims for justice and redress of the Uitlander grievances. Mr. Hofmeyr holds no office, and yet he was the chosen one to represent the Cape Government at Pretoria. That he went up for no other reason but to advise the President not to yield further than he had gone already, assuring him that there was no ground or justification for the British Government to interfere in the internal concerns of the Transvaal, was shortly afterwards acknowledged by his right hand bowler, the Cape Premier. We need only look up the letter Mr. Schreiner addressed to the Krugerrite-Bond organs in Cape Town—and all doubts vanish.

How hard the Secret Service Agents worked throughout England was clearly illustrated in their efforts to hold peace meetings and to rouse a certain section in the United Kingdom to denounce the action of the Government. How they fared we have seen; they only helped to strengthen the hands of the Colonial Secretary.

My Pretoria informant, under date September 12, wrote to me as follows:— "I am absolutely certain that a huge cheque was sent to London last week to one of the members of the House of Commons to further the Boer interests. It is thought here that a considerable section of the Irish people will create plenty of trouble in England which would give Kruger, Leyds & Co. another chance of bullying Chamberlain . . . . We have the support of the Orange Free State in whatever we do, and shall also get plenty of help from the Colony [?] . . . . further, we rely on the financial support of large German firms and of Germans throughout the State to help us."

In June I received these lines:— "Kruger will fight first and yield afterwards . . . . From the General down to the Boer



sharpshooter the opinion prevails that your English rooineks will get licked again, as in days gone by."

We may thus safely assert that from the start the Boer Government had made up its mind, with the encouragement given them from Anti-British quarters, to, in the first place, treat the High Commissioner's despatches with contempt and bluff, and secondly to prepare for eventualities and fight.

From reliable information through their representatives at the Cape the Home Government received clear and straightforward views of the treacherous factors here at work undermining the Paramountcy of the Queen.

There was a time when every loyal son of the Empire expected that, at any moment, His Excellency the Governor, with practically the whole of the country at his back, would oust the Cape Ministry from office. But Sir Alfred Milner knew better.

The Transvaal and Orange Free State, once again under the British flag—simultaneously there would be a disappearance of that "loyal" party of Afrikaners, commonly known as the Bond.

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## Lady Spies.

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In conclusion, allow me to dwell for a moment on a few matters I have not yet touched upon in these pages. It has often been asserted that there are in the Colony a number of good-looking young ladies who are in the employ of the Secret Service of the Transvaal Government. The facts are these:—

When in 1895 British military movements were being closely watched by the Republican Secret Service Agents, it was decided to have at Pietermaritzburg and at Durban one trustworthy lady informant who, through her abilities and non-abilities, perhaps, would be successful in getting from the military officers all such information as required for use in Pretoria. Whether this decision was ever carried into effect, I am unable to state. This much is certain, that from the middle of 1895 down to the present time a rather prepossessing young female was often seen passing in and out of Norwood Chambers, Church Square, Cape Town, and was twice seen at a Government House Ball in earnest conversation with a couple of lieutenants of a regiment now stationed in another part of Her Majesty's Dominions. This same young lady may also be seen at times entering or making her exit from Good Hope Chambers, St. George's Street. If the recent case at Woolwich Arsenal is of any account I may state that perhaps Dr. Leyds has a few Belgian mademoiselles at the Brussels Legation whom he pays out of his own pocket, but for what purpose, it is difficult to guess. [The arrest of a lady spy in Natal (Miss Bester) with despatches for the Boers found in her possession, goes a long way in support of above statement.—PUBLISHER.]

## Sir Jacobus de Wet.

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Sir Jacobus de Wet, who attempted to dictate to Mr. Chamberlain in 1896 what to do and what not to do, and was promptly dispatched to his pro-Boer friends in the Colony, could furnish the public with some interesting facts connected with Transvaal Secret Service moves if his present peculiar position would allow him to do so. He has kept himself remarkably quiet since the days of the Raid, but, I am sure, has done *good work* for his party. It is a different matter one moment to call upon an oppressed and insulted people to lay down their arms and bow to a despotic Government, and soon afterwards to go to the ballot box and record your vote to the majority pursuing that self-same policy of retrogression, a thousand miles away. Sir Jacobus, evidently foreseeing events, did a wise thing to adopt a course that at the time it happened seemed to shock even the honourable member for Caithness (Dr. Clarke), who at that particular time was so upset and aggravated at Mr. Kruger's principle and tendency of the Aliens' Expulsion Act.

Sir Jacobus always found his work "greatly lightened by the extreme cordiality with which business between himself and the Executive Council was put through," to quote his own words.

Does he remember when on one occasion Mr. D. Draper (of Imperial Institute fame) called at the Visagie Street Residence *in re* a certain dispute between himself and the Government—and how ultimately the Executive Council dealt with this matter? But Secret Service Agents are always more or less in the wrong when they had to deal with an *honest* British Agent.

This self-same individual in January 1897 called upon Mr. Conyngham Greene and asked whether he, as a man who had *at one time* been a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, but had since then taken the oath of allegiance to the Transvaal, would, in the event of war between Britain and the latter State, have to fight for his adopted country? The answer of Mr. Green, denuded of diplomatic verbiage, was, of course, in the affirmative.

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## Tricks of the Trade.

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I had intended to deal with a number of matters indirectly connected with Secret Service, such as the deficits on certain State accounts in the hands of a number of Hollander clerks, and to show how treacherously the Government of the South African Republic is unknowingly swindled out of large sums of money; how, on several occasions, Secret Service Agents have deliberately urged upon hostile Native Chiefs, as in the recent case of Mpefu, the necessity for fighting the very State these Agents owe their existence to, and the notorious reasons for such dastardly conduct; how and where Bond Elections were fought with coin not made in England, but I must draw to a close.



I feel somewhat pleased to have had an opportunity of seeing published the conspiracies alluded to, for time after time, when only throwing slight hints on the aforementioned items, the Progressive Press in South Africa, in England and the Continent, to whom I during the past few years in particular had addressed such communications as I then thought expedient to see the light of day, have in return notified me that the "time had not arrived to publish matters of such a nature," or that "we are sorry not to be able just now to publish your letter—it might hurt a large section of the community," and so on. May I ask whether this time of grace, prudence and shilly-shallying has now expired?

A well-known Cape politician to whom I had confided a number of particulars replied: "Great as the surprise will be, if I were you I would not allude to conspiracies; it is too strong a word." I now ask whether in the face of such facts as detailed in this pamphlet, the word "conspiracy" compared with the glaring deeds of the Republican Government still under the Imperial Suzerain on the one side and a number of (now) responsible Ministers of the Crown on the other—I ask whether that term is not altogether too mild? Look back once again, have not recent times shown that the actions of at least two of the Ministers of the Cape Government have been clear cases of high treason?

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### "Schreinerism."

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But what is the use of lamenting now when the game is up and they have to hand in their cheques to the very Power they deliberately and knowingly tried to wreck? Conspiracy? Do you remember Mr. Schreiner's words at the Raid Inquiry, delivered on March 16th, 1897? Let me quote a few of his remarks anent the subject of race hatred:—

Sir William Harcourt asked Mr. Schreiner what he, in *his* opinion, thought of the result of the raid as to the condition of the Cape and South Africa?

Mr. Schreiner: It has had a most lamentable result. Confidence has been grievously shattered and people do not trust each other. That is the most important factor in the harm done by the secret Conspiracy. [Note the word and compare.] This Raid Conspiracy has had nothing but condemnation from all right-thinking persons. The Cape had lost by the manifesto.

The finest reply then given to Mr. Schreiner at the time and which struck sorely home was a brilliant and rather significant article in the *Globe* headed "Schreinerism," part of which is worth repeating:—

"No greater service could have been rendered the Imperial cause than calling Mr. Schreiner as a witness. The true inwardness of a certain section of the Afrikaner sentiment is revealed now as it never was before. We commend it to the careful attention of every one wishing to see this country remain the Paramount Power in South



*Africa.* Mr. Schreiner, who does not conceal his ambition to succeed his late patron in the Premiership, is not an uninteresting specimen of the Englishman made in Germany. We can well believe that the patience and long-suffering of the British Government, in face of the intolerable insolence of the Boer, has undoubtedly been mistaken by the Transvaal Government for a confession of weakness, and there has been a temporary loss of prestige which must in some degree effect even putative Englishmen like Mr. Schreiner. We say advisedly, for as certainly as the sun will rise to-morrow the honour of the British name must be vindicated in South Africa, and the proud boast *Civis Britannicus sum* will regain its rightful significance.

"Mr. Schreiner alienated the home Afrikaner by subscribing to the ultimatum presented to the Transvaal for closing the drifts. He hopes to win back support by opposing Mr. Rhodes' policy as being too Imperialistic. We may be prejudiced, but for our part we regard Mr. Schreiner's policy as too German, and we are much mistaken if this view is not shared by the majority of the Cape Electorate. The *Volksstem* boasts that England will require to send 60,000 soldiers. Should war be forced, England will not shrink even from the employment of such a force, though her estimate of the number necessary to force obedience to the Suzerain Power will be taken from her own military experts, rather than from a braggadocio Boer journal."

One cannot help feeling somewhat suspicious about the frankness of such an article. This much is certain, that some of the intricacies and tricks of Mr. Schreiner's pro Boer-German plan of campaign against the Suzerain Power were known to a section of Britishers across the water apart from members of the Imperial Government.

But whatever the mad brain of the "sacred" Emperor may have concocted, this one thing is certain, that there are in this country and in England a large number of well-known German firms who have shown that they are not disposed to take up the views or fall in with the monstrous ideas of William II.; and if, by chance, after the final settlement of the Boer question, a war with Germany should be the ultimate outcome of the German policy past and present, it will be found that a by no means small proportion of German settlers and Colonists will shoulder the Lee-Metford in preference to Mausers.

How bitterly the best known and influential German Houses at Port Elizabeth, Johannesburg, and other leading centres of commerce in South Africa resented the uncalled-for interference of the Kaiser after his celebrated telegram to Mr. Kruger—which, by the way, he tried to explain after a lapse of some eighteen months—is still fresh in the minds of Britishers in South Africa.

It has also been stated, and once Reuter wired to England from Pretoria, that "the French Colonial party was backing Leyds." This is incorrect. One or two ex-members did, that is to say, they hoped by patting Dr. Leyds on the shoulder to get a look-in on the directorate of De Nationale Bank, to which is attached a by no means small annual allowance.

Amidst the tumult of discontent we hear the familiar and reassuring words of Mr. Chamberlain; we follow with keen interest the determined attitude of our old friend Sir Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, who on so many critical occasions has espoused our cause faithfully and fearlessly; and last but not least we strive to back up and support our esteemed Governor and High Commissioner, Sir Alfred Milner; and while gradually, step by step, in spite of treacherous scheming and damnable plots, evil influences ever at work to undermine the Queen's authority, the fact daily becomes more apparent—the Paramountcy of Great and Greater Britain assumes sterner proportions;—loudly cry angry and discomfited voices; “Eendracht maakt magt,” and “God behoede land en volk,” but these, after years of trouble and anguish, will very soon give place to:—

“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!”

A. E. HEYER.

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FINIS.

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By Special Appointment

To His Excellency  
Sir Alfred Milner, G.C.M.G.,  
K.C.B.  
Lord Loch of Drylaw.



Lord Elphinstone  
and  
Sir William R. Fairfax,  
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